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COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
First session
29 March-8 April 1993
Agenda item 16

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS FIRST SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Denis DAVIS

Chapter ___

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Committee on Natural Resources held its first session at United Nations Headquarters from 29 March to 8 April 1993. It held ___ meetings. The session was opened by the Director of the Science, Technology, Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the United Nations Secretariat, who made a statement on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development.

2. According to paragraph 7 (b) (ii) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/235 of 13 April 1992, the Committee would have two working groups, one on minerals, and one on water resources. The Working Group on Water Resources held ___ meetings and the Working Group on Mineral Resources held ___ meetings.

B. Membership and attendance

3. In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1992/218 of 30 April 1992, the Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, decided to establish, inter alia, a

Committee on Natural Resources composed of 24 government-nominated experts from different Member States, who possessed the necessary qualifications and professional or scientific knowledge, and who would act in their personal capacities, elected by the Council for a four-year term.

4. The 1st meeting of the Committee on Natural Resources was held in New York from 29 March to 8 April 1993. Nineteen members of the Committee attended: Guillermo Jorge Cano, Patrick M. Chipungu, Denis A. Davis, Vladislav M. Dolgopolov, Malin Falkenmark, Ugo Farinelli, Marek Hoffmann, Mohammad Nawaz Khan, Godfrey L. S. Leshange, José Manuel Mejía Angel, Thomas P. Z. Mpofu, Dossou Barthélémy Otchoun, Hendrik Martinus Oudshoorn, Neculai Pavlovschi, Karlheinz Rieck, R. W. Roye Rutland, Luis Fernando Soarez de Assis, Natarayan Suryanarayanan, Zhang Hai-Lun. Four members were unable to attend: Patricio Jerez, Erastus Kabutu Mwongera, Lukabu Khabouji N'Zaji, Sheik Ibrahim bin Sheik Ali. The Council postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Asian States.

5. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Ghana, Lebanon, Senegal.

6. The following regional commissions were represented: Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

7. The following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and related organizations were represented: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations University, International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, World Meteorological Organization.

8. The Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, an intergovernmental organization, was represented.

9. The International Chamber of Commerce, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I, was also represented.

C. Election of officers

10. At the 1st meeting on 29 March 1993, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following officers:

Chairman: Thomas P. Z. Mpofu

Vice-Chairmen: Guillermo Jorge Cano
Marek Hoffmann
Zhang Hai Lun

Rapporteur: Denis Davis

D. Agenda

11. At the 1st and 2nd meetings, on 29 March 1993, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda for the session as amended and contained in document E/C.7/1993/13. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Permanent sovereignty over mineral and water resources.

4. New techniques, including remote sensing, for identifying, exploring for and assessing mineral and water resources.

5. Disaster prevention and mitigation in developing and utilizing mineral and water resources.

6. Activities of the United Nations system in the field of water resources.

7. Matters arising from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the field of water resources.

8. (a) Issues concerning the sustainable development and use of water resources;

   (b) Issues concerning technologies for increasing efficiency in the use of water and for water recycling, and the transfer and adaptation of such technologies.

9. Cross-sectoral priority programmes for coordinated action by the United Nations system in the area of water resources:

   (a) Information management;

   (b) Capacity-building for water resources management.

10. Activities of the United Nations system in the field of mineral resources.

11. (a) Flow of financial resources and transfer of technology to develop the mineral resources of developing countries;

    (b) Issues concerning the more efficient use of materials, their recycling, their replacement by high-technology substitutes, and the transfer of such technologies.

12. Issues concerning the International Round-table on Mining and the Environment, held in Berlin in 1991, and implications of environmental protection and conservation policies and strategies in the mineral sector.

13. Small-scale mining activities in developing countries and national legislation regarding enterprises in this area.

14. Priority programmes for coordinated action by the United Nations system in the area of mineral resources:

(a) Information management;

(b) Capacity-building for mineral sector management;

(c) Cross-sectoral issues.

15. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee.

16. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the organization of work for the session (E/C.7/1993/L.2).